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1995 Major Accomplishments

of the



Pioneer Valley
Planning Commission

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Top Ten 1995 New Year's Resolutions

- ☒ Organize and lead an intensive, multiyear effort to successfully implement *The Pioneer Valley Plan for Progress*.
- ☒ Advance the Commission's recommended Connecticut River 2020 strategy by: initiating design plans for the first phases of the "Connecticut Riverwalk"; construct a pilot artificial wetland project to correct Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) pollution problems; utilize the \$373 million clean-up of the lower Connecticut River as a combined environmental/economic development initiative.
- ☒ Establish accessible PVPC node on the global INTERNET Computer Network and pursue other related telecommunication initiatives to better serve the Pioneer Valley Region.
- ☒ Complete reorganization of the Regional Information Center and publish several new data products including updated survey of major Pioneer Valley employers; regional employment projections; and several additional facility profiles.
- ☒ In cooperation with Chief elected officials, Joint Transportation Committee, Pioneer Valley Transit Authority and area business leaders, address several transportation initiatives: start-up of key transportation management systems required by federal law; development of regional airport sub-system plan; introduction of transportation demand management initiatives aimed at improving air quality; revisions to structure of the Metropolitan Planning Organization; and instituting major improvements to the Commission's public participation program.
- ☒ Proceed with third phase of the Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway Project in collaboration with affected hilltowns along the Route 20 corridor in the Pioneer Valley and neighboring Berkshire Region. Initiate preliminary work on new interstate, Connecticut Valley Scenic Farm Highway Project encompassing segments of Route 47 in Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire.
- ☒ Complete recruitment of new staff and move forward with new regional service coordination called for in PVPC's Regional Merits Strategic Plan.
- ☒ Evaluate and introduce highway, transit, land use and other measures to improve the region's air quality primarily by reducing vehicle exhaust emissions.
- ☒ Leverage recent PVPC "challenge grant" to secure seed capital for projects identified by the Commission-sponsored Pioneer Valley Regional Education Alliance, including the creation of a regional education resource center.
- ☐ Begin development of Route 9 mitigation plan with the Route 9 Corridor Advisory Committee to minimize the anticipated disruptions when major transportation improvements to the Coolidge Bridge and segments of the Route 9 corridor in Hadley are initiated by the State during the latter part of the 1990s.



Overview

During 1995, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission undertook numerous projects and tasks on behalf of its 43 member communities. These work activities have significantly influenced the region's future economic prosperity, while at the same time, protected its character and natural resources. This report highlights the year's major accomplishments.



Transportation

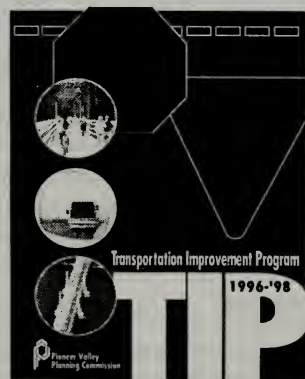
The Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), of which the PVPC is the lead planning agency, successfully completed US Department of Transportation Certification Review of the transportation planning process. Representatives from the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency conducted a two day joint review of all aspects of the metropolitan planning regulations, including an interview with the Mayor of Springfield and a spokesperson for the transportation disadvantaged. Successful completion of this review certifies that the Pioneer Valley MPO is operating appropriately according to federal regulations and standards.

A revision to the Financial Element and Conformity Determination of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for the Pioneer Valley Region was completed. The Financial Element identifies the costs of operating and maintaining the total transportation system, system expansions and significant capital expenditures, and estimates the revenues available over the period of the plan. The Conformity Determination certifies that the RTP conforms to the Massachusetts State Implementation Plan in accordance with the latest rules of the Clean Air Act Amendments.

Developed a regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for federal fiscal years 1996 - 1998. The TIP represents an implementation schedule of highway, bridge, transit, and bicycle projects throughout the region. Over \$77 million in projects were programmed in the first year of the TIP, with an additional \$136 million programmed in the second and third years.

Worked cooperatively with the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and the other Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organizations to develop and establish evaluation criteria and analysis procedures for projects selected under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program. Five projects were selected to be funded under the CMAQ program in the 1996-1998 Transportation Improvement Program for the Pioneer Valley region.

Performed a total of 157 traffic counts as part of PVPC's annual traffic counting program. The data collection effort includes 65 counts conducted at the request of member communities, 60 counts performed for the Massachusetts Highway Department, 27 counts for use in the regional travel demand forecasting analysis, and 5 counts were conducted on a fee for service basis for private clients.



The Boston Road Corridor Study was completed and a final report published. This study was conducted along the Route 20/Boston Road corridor in Springfield and Wilbraham. Analysis combined both land use and traffic forecasts to produce recommendations to address the existing and future needs along the corridor. PVPC staff worked in conjunction with a Corridor Advisory Committee throughout the study process.

Completed a comprehensive origin/destination survey of PVTA Routes 702 and 703 which serve the communities of Amherst, Hadley, Northampton and Williamsburg along State Route (SR) 9. With the recommendations brought forth from the PVPC report, a new schedule can be designed to better serve those who utilize the route and potentially alleviate some of the traffic problems during the reconstruction of SR 9 and the Coolidge Bridge.



Worked with PVTA in the design, route nomenclature, and implementation of the newly designed PVTA transit system in the Greater Springfield service area. PVTA instituted routes that pulse or meet on a timed basis at a central location to guarantee passenger transfers between routes with no waiting time, thereby decreasing travel time for many passengers. A new transfer center has been established at the Springfield Bus Terminal. With a new route nomenclature and color scheme, the system offers quick and obvious recognition of "in service" buses and their route designation.

Completed an informative guide of all the of PVTA routes based in Springfield and Holyoke. This guide is designed to assist all the employees of PVTA, Transit Express, and PVPC with the new route schedules and nomenclature scheme. The guide contains all the schedules for Springfield and Holyoke based buses, pulsing information for Holyoke and Springfield transfer centers, and the times for connecting service to Connecticut Transit traveling to Hartford, PVTA Route 301 to Amherst, and PVTA Route 701 serving Northampton.

Conducted a comprehensive study to quantify the total economic benefits and impacts of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority to the region as a whole. Using a linear economic model, planners were able to measure PVTAs total economic benefit to the region, substantiate the effects of upcoming federal funding reductions, and distinguish which sectors in the economy are closely related to public transit. The report will be used to support transit funding on the legislative front and as an economic development tool.

The PVPC has undertaken the development of a Pavement Management System (PMS) for all federal-aid highways in the region. A Pavement Management System (PMS) is a systematic process that collects and analyzes pavement information used as input in selecting cost-effective strategies for providing and maintaining pavements in a serviceable condition. The PVPC's regional PMS involves a comprehensive process for establishing the network inventory, collecting and storing pavement distress data, analyzing the data, and identifying the cost effective corrective maintenance activities. The entire PMS

coverage encompasses over 1,300 miles of urban and rural federal-aid highways of the 43 cities and towns in our region. The PVPC staff has collected pavement distress data for approximately 40% of the coverage with condition mapping to be presented using the PVPC's GIS system. Each community in the region will ultimately receive a federal-aid functional classification map detailing the condition of each roadway segment and corrective action required.

During 1995 the agency began a major transportation initiative geared towards improving opportunities for bicycling and walking in communities throughout the Pioneer Valley. A successful community outreach effort established common goals and objectives for the region and provided a forum for communities to learn from noted experts in the field of bikeway planning and design as well as benefit from a growing base of local knowledge and support. The University of Massachusetts department of landscape architecture and regional planning assisted the PVPC in an inventory of potential multi-use trail corridors including railroads, electric utility lines, aqueducts, canal towpaths, abandoned trolley lines, and water retention dikes. To date, more than half of the 43 cities and towns in the region have initiated new projects or programs geared toward improving bicycling and walking in these communities. This effort provides a resource for identifying local corridors and regional connections.

Educated local community representatives and private providers on the availability and application procedures of the Transportation Enhancements funding program. Planners held workshops and solicited project proposals for funding in federal fiscal year 1996. Fifteen proposals were submitted to PVPC and passed on to a statewide steering committee. The efforts resulted in funding availability to eleven projects totaling \$4.5 million.

Implemented a Congestion Management System (CMS) for the Pioneer Valley Region which identifies, analyzes and develops improvement alternatives for locations on the federal aid roadway system with severe traffic congestion. A transportation problem area survey was distributed to all Pioneer Valley communities to assist in locating these areas as well as the collection of extensive field data. Results of these efforts are to be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan for the identification of improvement alternatives.

A total of 22 local technical assistance requests were performed for 17 different communities in the Pioneer Valley region. Typical requests consisted of data collection, traffic signal warrants analysis, and projects reviews. Numerous reviews were also conducted of all Environmental Notification Forms and Environmental Impact Reports received for projects in member communities as part of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act.

PVPC successfully organized and presented a series of monthly educational workshops on various aspects of the Metropolitan Planning Regulations. Predominately targeting local officials, but open to the public, these workshops made available substantial information regarding numerous topics including: metropolitan planning requirements; regional transportation plan development; transportation improvement program development; transportation enhancements; management systems; unified work program development; and air quality analysis and conformity.



Landuse

Helped coordinate the presentation of major zoning revision packages to several of the region's town meetings. These zoning overhaul votes were approved in Easthampton, Westhampton, East Longmeadow, and disapproved in Southampton.

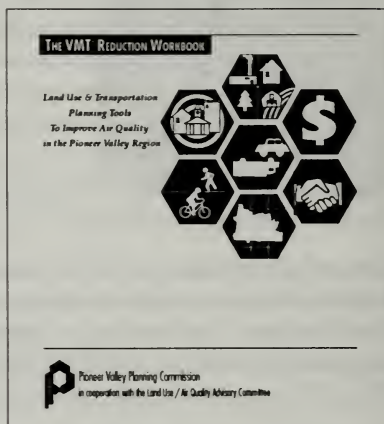
Completed work on the *VTM Reduction Workbook*, a region-wide strategy to reduce vehicle miles traveled and air quality impacts, through more efficient land use and commuting methods.

Completed a strategic plan for growth management in Holland, including strategies for lake and water quality protection, and rural economic development.

Completed a strategic plan for commercial corridor management and a comprehensive zoning bylaw revision for West Springfield.

Completed work on the land use analysis and growth management strategies for the *Route 20 Corridor Study* in Springfield and Wilbraham.

Initiated work on a new Southwick Master Plan to address growth management, environmental protection, recreational, open space preservation, capital improvements and other needs.





Water Quality

Received final approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the designation of the Barnes Aquifer in Easthampton, Holyoke and Southampton as the first "Sole Source Aquifer" in western Massachusetts, providing additional federal protection to this regional water supply.

Established the Connecticut River Clean-up Committee, including Springfield, Chicopee, Agawam, Ludlow, South Hadley, Holyoke and West Springfield to work cooperatively to address the regional problem of combined sewer overflows (CSOs), to seek funding and creative solutions to mitigate water quality impacts. Sponsored a major legislative forum on cleaning up the Connecticut River.

Drafted legislation which would create a new Western Massachusetts Environmental Trust Fund to provide revenues from an environmental license plate and other sources to fund water quality improvement projects in Western Massachusetts. Secured the sponsorship of Representative Stephen Kulik for the bill, which has gained many co-sponsors.

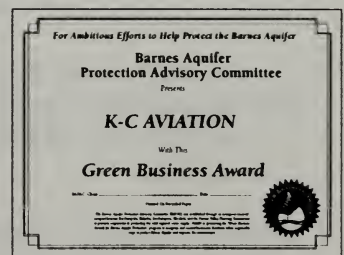
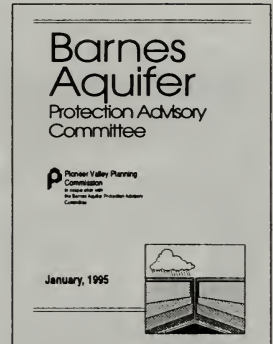
Completed installation of a new "duckbill flapgate" to demonstrate a new combined sewer overflow control measure in Springfield.

Completed work on a feasibility study to identify cost-effective CSO control measures, including use of a constructed wetland, in Chicopee.

Initiated a new program of "Green Business Awards" given by the Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee to area businesses which take voluntary steps to help protect the Barnes Aquifer. Initial awards were made to K-C Aviation and East Mountain Country Club.

Continued to provide staff support and coordination to the Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee, the Western Valley Water Protection Committee and the Eastern Valley Water Protection Committee.

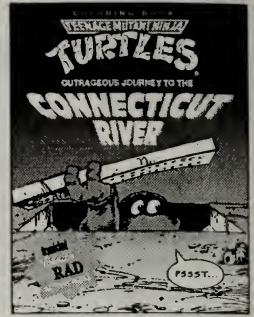
Secured a \$61,000 grant to improve water quality in Lake Lorraine and Five Mile Pond in Springfield by implementing Best Management Practices for urban stormwater runoff control.



Secured a \$70,000 grant to protect water quality in the Mill River Aquifer in Hatfield by replacing failing septic systems and instituting land use regulations.

Provided assistance to Goshen and Brimfield in developing comprehensive strategies to protect small public water supplies and educate water suppliers on Safe Drinking Water Act provisions.

Worked with Mirage Studios to develop a children's educational coloring book about Connecticut River water quality problems, employing the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle characters, entitled "Outrageous Journey to the Connecticut River," which has been distributed to 5000 area grade school students.



Developed a model Urban Stormwater Management Bylaw designed to reduce Connecticut River non-point source pollution, and assisted the City of Holyoke to become the first city to adopt these provisions.

Developed guidelines, inspection form and a handbook for drinking water reservoir watershed inspections. Completed watershed inspections for Northampton, West Springfield and Blandford reservoir watersheds.

Secured \$33,500 in grant funds to improve water quality in Pequot Pond in Westfield, Holyoke and Southampton, by installing a stormwater management system.

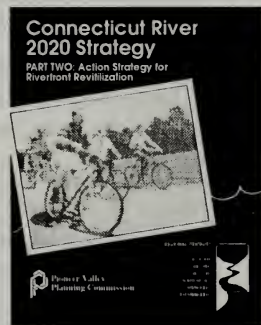
Completed work on a design manual, *Stormwater Infiltration*, to promote artificial recharge of groundwater supplies in Massachusetts.



Greenways Trails and River Protection

Completed the *Connecticut River 2020 Strategy, Part Two*, which includes a detailed action strategy for implementing over fifty recommendations for riverfront revitalization, including greenways, trails, water quality improvements, riverfront economic development, and recreational access in Agawam, Chicopee, Holyoke, South Hadley, Springfield, and West Springfield.

Completed preliminary design and route layout for the Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway, in Agawam, Chicopee, Springfield, Longmeadow and West Springfield. Secured a \$300,000 grant and initiated work on final design and engineering plans in Agawam and Springfield. Secured a \$289,000 grant for design of the Chicopee segment. Secured a \$2.7 million federal ISTEA grant for construction of the project's first phase in Agawam and Springfield. Established an inter-municipal compact to plan, own and maintain the Riverwalk. Worked with state legislators to draft legislative provisions in the proposed Open Space Bond to provide \$3 million for riverwalk construction.



Secured an \$84,000 grant for design and engineering of the Chicopee Riverwalk and Bikeway, along the Chicopee River to Szot Park. Worked with city officials and landowners to determine route layout and seek to acquire needed lands.

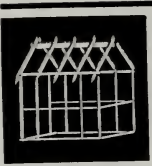
Secured approval of a Governor's Executive Order directing state agencies to take action to protect the Westfield River as a National Wild and Scenic River. The order was signed by Governor Weld at a ceremony on the river in Russell on November 3, 1995.

Received the "Outstanding Planning Award for Planning Implementation" from the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association and "Greenways and Trails Award" from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management for the Westfield River Protection Project.

Secured a \$43,000 grant for design of a recreational trail along the scenic West Branch Gorge of the Westfield River and to restore the historic keystone arch railroad bridges spanning the river.

Secured \$30,000 in grant funds to develop and install a series on educational and information kiosks along the Westfield River to promote wise use of this national scenic river.

Initiated work on a Connecticut River Heritage study sponsored by the National Park Service to develop a strategy to promote tourism to the region's river-related historical, recreational, environmental and other sites.



Community Development

Began implementation of over \$4.2 million in projects from the EOCD FY'94 Community Development Fund and HOME Fund for the Towns of Huntington, Chester, Russell, Middlefield, Montgomery, Blandford, Wales, Holland, Brimfield and Monson. The following was accomplished in these ten different communities:

- Streets and Sidewalk Improvements - 14,300 linear feet repaired/resurfaced.
- Housing Rehabilitation and Septic Replacement - 54 housing units rehabilitated septic systems repaired or replaced.
- Social Service Programs - Daycare subsidies, purchase of a van, food pantry, fuel subsidies, job search assistance, parent support, counseling, summer day camp, after school programs, technical assistance.
- Water/Sewer Infrastructure - Design and construction procurement of a slow sand filtration facility.
- Neighborhood Facilities - Design and construction procurement of Middlefield Old Town Hall Senior Center; Brimfield Council on Aging freezer purchase.

Prepared and submitted five (5) FY'95 EOCD Community Development Fund applications on behalf of Russell, Huntington, Chester, Middlefield, Wales, Holland, Brimfield, Monson and Ware. Total funding requested exceeded \$3.5 million.

Continued to work with Chester to obtain compliance and resolve outstanding concerns of the United States E.P.A. and Massachusetts D.E.P. allowing the town to proceed with design and construction of a \$2.1 million slow sand filtration facility.

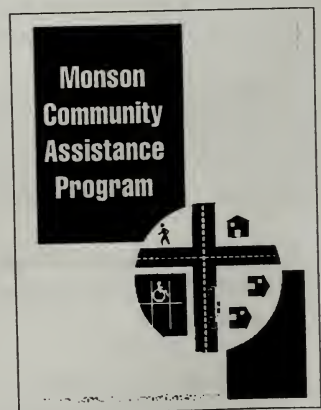
Completed the removal of architectural barriers in town halls and libraries in Holland and Wales.

Prepared an Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan for Hadley.

Initiated a series of regional informational workshops on the Commonwealth's Title V septic repair loan and betterment program.

Prepared consultant RFP's for the Town of Southwick and Ware for their respective S.107 Local Economic Development Partnership Programs.

Completed close-out of six (6) FY91-92 EOCD Community Development Fund and Ready Resource Grant Programs.





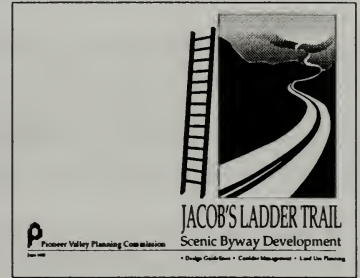
Historic Preservation

Implemented Phase II of the Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway Program by:

- producing two publications entitled: *Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway Development: Design Guidelines, Corridor Management, Land Use Planning and Improvements Plan: Phase II.*
- securing 501(c)3 status for the corridor management organization Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway, Inc.
- distributing the tour book produced in Phase I to book and bicycle stores throughout the state.
- receiving recognition by Scenic America as one of ten outstanding scenic byways in United States.
- producing Scenic Byway logo signage for installation along the byway.

Continued Phases III-IV:

- received \$96,500 for Phases III-IV for landscaping five turnouts, installing interpretive signage, restoration of a hiking trail in the Chester State Forest, and production of a brochure.
- received \$170,000 in funding for the Chester Depot rehabilitation
- completed the preliminary design and specifications for restoration of the Maple Street Bridge in Chester
- developed design alternatives, preliminary specifications and cost estimates for retaining walls and guard rails along the corridor.
- began working with regional travel and tourism agencies and the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority to promote Jacob's Ladder Trail.



Worked with the Massachusetts Highway Department and the Franklin County Commission and successfully obtained funding to create a three-state scenic farm byway along the Connecticut River and Route 47.

Documented the structural significance and existing conditions of the 1759 Benjamin Osborne-Anne Lee House in Washington, Massachusetts for the Department of Environmental Management and made recommendations for its preservation within the Curatorial program.

Reviewed specifications and properties for compliance with the US Department of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation on housing rehabilitation projects in Southern Hilltowns and Southeastern Tier communities.

Conducted a series of three workshops on the ISTEA Enhancement program for communities in the PVPC region.

Held a workshop on cultural resource inventories, their components and how to fund them, with the Massachusetts Historical Commission and regional historical commission members.

Assisted obtaining environmental permits and \$93,600 contract for South Hadley Canal bank stabilization project, an enhancement project under ISTEA program.

Completed a cultural resource inventory and recommendations for nomination to the National Register for World War II and Cold War era buildings and structures at the Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee.

Began cultural resource inventories for the towns of Brimfield and Sunderland with survey and planning grants from the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Completed the North Hatfield historic district nomination to the National Register and began the town's fourth district, the Elm Street historic district.

Consulted on the preservation of the Springfield Technical High School and an historic portico at the Springfield Technical Community College.

Worked with the town of Ware to reestablish their Historical Commission and to provide them with assistance in developing preservation planning goals.

Provided technical information to historical commissions in Southamptton, Agawam, Southwick, Longmeadow, Northampton, Hatfield, Middlefield, and Wilbraham to help continue their preservation planning through assistance in making state and federal grant applications, advice on materials conservation, photographic documentation of significant historic buildings, and on the legal and administrative functions of historical commissions.



Data Center/GIS

Strengthened the PVPC's Geographic Information System (GIS) capacity through upgrading the Commission's existing equipment, staff training and developing efficiencies through the use of alternative software.

Compiled several regionwide digital geographic data layers useful for local and regional applications (i.e., municipal zoning, water and sewer service areas, wetlands, steep slope, flood plains, major employers,).

Integrated the use of GIS technology into several transportation facility management programs including: transit service analysis, pavement management, traffic counting program, and assessing potential of abandoned rail lines, utility rights-of-way and abandoned roads for non-motorized/recreational use.

Continued to participate in the Massachusetts Geographic Information Committee efforts to promote GIS technology and coordinate the development of statewide geographically referenced data. Further efforts to promote GIS and assist Pioneer Valley communities with this technology were supported through our Pioneer Valley GIS User's Forum and co-sponsoring the statewide conference - *Developing GIS for Local Government*.

Provided mapping, GIS, publication design and publishing services to Pioneer Valley communities, PVTA and area businesses.

Published *Employment Projections* which forecast employment in the Pioneer Valley region by industrial classification to the year 2005.

Completed research and published *Major Employers Inventory for the Pioneer Valley Region*. This report is the third in a series which identifies type, size and location of the region's larger establishments employing fifty or more people.

Updated community profiles for each of our forty-three member communities.

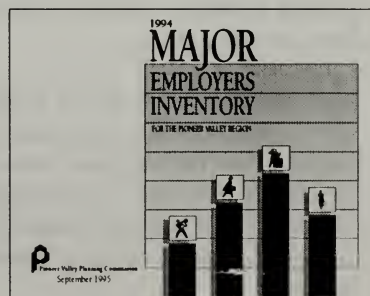
Using the Internet, implemented an on-line homepage for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

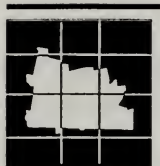
Assisted business and community officials with data research needs with demographic, and economic information on the Pioneer Valley.

Developing

**GEOGRAPHIC
INFORMATION
SYSTEMS (GIS)**

In Local Government





Regional Initiatives

Completed the feasibility study, *Regional Management of Household Hazardous Waste in the Pioneer Valley*, which examines regional options for collection and disposal of HHW as well as educational strategies, and recommends a new regional approach to these issues.

Coordinated efforts of a regional citizen's group, the Holyoke Dam Planning Group, to monitor and influence the re-licensing of the Holyoke Dam via the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission process

Installed satellite teleconferencing equipment enabling us to host training courses specifically for community leaders and volunteers, as well as private and non-profit sector professionals involved in community relations. Programs provide a forum for regional participation in a variety of fields.

Entered into an agreement with the University of Massachusetts to provide local officials with low-cost, local-access Internet accounts.

Hosted a workshop for Planning and Zoning Boards with Principal Planner Don Schmidt from the Executive Office of Community and Development

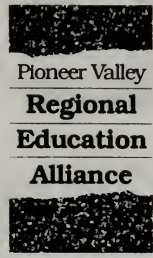
Organized a Regional Household Hazardous Waste Cooperative to solicit proposals for providing one-day municipal waste collections as a group to reduce the cost to member communities.

Acquired software which allows staff to access the Massachusetts General Laws, Massachusetts Case Law, the Code of Massachusetts Regulations and the Federal Register on CD ROM. With this tool, staff can provide member communities access to the most up-to-date laws and citations.

Since publishing the *Plan for Progress* a year ago, trustees for this regional economic initiative have developed teams for each strategy and moved ahead with implementation. Highlights in this effort include the formation of Telitcom and Mass Ventures and funding for specific aspects of the Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway.



Continued to support the Regional Education Alliance and work of its Blue Ribbon Committee. Efforts focused on formation of a regional Academy for Excellence. Through workshops lead by national leaders in the field of organizational development and educational reform, committee began process of outreach and support.



As a participant in Commerce '95, a regional trade show sponsored by the Chicopee and Holyoke chambers of commerce, the agency presented regional data and air quality issues to hundred of residents and members of the business community.

Worked with state regulatory agency to thoughtfully revise state environmental regulations governing "potentially productive aquifers" which, if unchanged, would have significant adverse impact on urban locations in the Pioneer Valley and Western Massachusetts.

Completed and published the Westover Joint Land Use Study which recommends strategies for ensuring public safety through wise land management strategies and controls in several communities surrounding Westover Air Reserve Base.



A Sampler of Local Technical Assistance

Agawam

Reviewed site plan for proposed Berkshire Power Plant and provided conceptual planting plan and list of appropriate species.

Reviewed a traffic study for a proposed casino adjacent to Riverside Park.

Amherst

Provided information to planning department on area municipalities which require owner occupancy for accessory apartments and how such ownership is ensured.

Belchertown

Revised and produced municipal base and zoning maps for Planning Board.

Provided the town with funding options concerning a problematic mobile home park health and safety concern.

Blandford

Provided information on the fundamentals of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A and its impact on local zoning decisions, through a Commission sponsored workshop.

Brimfield

Assisted in preparation of ISTEAs enhancement program application for the Chester Railroad Depot historic presentation project.

Chester

Provided planning board with information on large-lot zoning and its legal implications in Massachusetts.

Wrote successful \$10,000 DARE and COPS FAST grant applications for police dept.

Chesterfield

Provided PVPC commissioner copies of 1989 public survey and questionnaire conducted in Chesterfield as part of the Chesterfield/Westhampton Growth Management Report.

Researched questions of a change of non-conforming use in the Westfield River/Flood-plain District and use of trailers as school buildings under current zoning.

Chicopee

Provided access to the Internet for research on innovative erosion control measures which led to a grant application for work on an erosion project within the city.

Prepared a successful joint ISTEAs Enhancements grant application with the city of Chicopee and the Chicopee River Watershed Council for engineering and design plans of a Chicopee Riverwalk and Bikeway. Coordinated planning and land acquisition efforts and assisted with the development of a project brochure.

Cummington

Secured approval of new Executive Order from Governor Weld which will bolster efforts to protect the designated "wild and scenic" segments of the upper Westfield River.

East Longmeadow

Reviewed site plans for an SIS bank expansion to determine the possibility of prohibiting left hand turns into and out of the site to improve traffic circulation in the vicinity.

Easthampton

Assisted the Easthampton Bikeway Committee with planning a bikeway project including providing assistance on ISTEPA Enhancements grant and compilation of historical information on the Easthampton canal for inclusion in a trail brochure.

Conducted a survey to determine the pros and cons of reestablishing rail freight service.

Goshen

Provided the town with examples of comprehensive zoning bylaw revisions that had been completed in other towns with PVPC assistance.

Granby

Collected traffic count data at one location.

Granville

Assisted historical commission with grant application.

Provided guidance on zoning issue which involved whether more than one principal use could occupy one building.

Hadley

Assisted the town in completing close-out of a Community Block Development Grant for sewer pump station upgrade.

Performed a daily traffic count on Bay Road.

Hampden

Collected traffic count data at one location.

Hatfield

Developed a successful grant application for a DEP Section 319 Grant to help protect the Mill River Aquifer.

Holland

Assisted Economic Development Committee exploring options to enable a small business to expand in town. Discussed a variety of options ranging from developing a new business district to pursuing a Cottage Industry bylaw.

Holyoke

Performed capacity analysis as part of a traffic study at 5 intersections along Rte 5 -

Northampton Street.

Prepared a grant application for an EOCD Strategic Planning grant application, and developing a scope of work for a new City Master Plan.

Translated state and PVPC geographic data coverages to appropriate format and provided technical system support to the Planning Department's GIS .

Huntington

Collected pavement management and traffic count data to assist the community in advancing plans to receive funding for improvements along the roadway.

Longmeadow

Performed turning movement and parking turnover counts at a local shopping center.

Performed a traffic study on Dwight Road from its intersection with Williams Street to its intersection with Converse Street.

Ludlow

Performed daily traffic counts at three locations.

Middlefield

Reviewed proposed Residence Business Bylaw, which ultimately resulted in town's decision to pursue, successfully, a state Municipal Incentives Grant to examine home-based business bylaws in detail. Also provided information on the public hearing process, camping standards and driveway standards.

Monson

Performed daily traffic counts at numerous locations.

Prepared the Town's FY95 EOCD CDF application.

Montgomery

Reviewed plans for library renovations with emphasis on historic preservation.

Northampton

Checked warrants and requirements for the installation of railroad warning signals and automatic gates at a recently activated crossing on Bates Street.

Provided data on number of people working in downtown Northampton and detailed analysis of journey to work data to support planning for potential park-and-ride lot.

Palmer

Assisted in preparation of ISTE A enhancement program application.

Assisted municipal agents in preparation of grant application to purchase a GIS system and develop broad-based municipal applications.

Pelham

Revised the municipal property line map.

Plainfield

Provided comments to Planning Board and Growth Management Committee for zoning bylaw amendments including: definitions, special permit uses, common access drive-ways, accessory apartments and creation of model Cottage Industry Bylaw.

Russell

Provided information to the Historic Commission for various projects.

South Hadley

Assisted in preparation of a draft zoning bylaw addressing vehicle use reduction for a proposed development project.

Provided information on bikeway funding and design development to a group in planning a trail along the Connecticut River connecting Chicopee and South Hadley.

Southampton

Performed a traffic count on Pomeroy Meadow Road.

Facilitated the development of a joint bikeway project with the town of Easthampton, providing site review and photography, funding information, materials for generating local support, and general planning guidance.

Southwick

Performed a Traffic Signal Warrants Analysis at the intersection of Route 57 with North Longyard and Roster Roads, and issued report recommending signal installation.

Prepared S.107 Local Economic Development Partnership consultant RFP.

Provided CDBG financial management technical assistance to the town accountant.

Springfield

Performed daily traffic counts and peak hour turning movement counts in downtown Springfield to determine new travel patterns created as part of the one-way conversion of Main Street from State Street to Liberty Street.

Researched and developed access, design and lighting standards for use in a gas station building permit, in order to minimize its impacts on an adjacent residential neighborhood.

Assisted the Blunt Park Association in planning and identifying funding sources for a bicycle trail network linking the Connecticut Riverwalk with inner city neighborhoods.

Tolland

Provided information and advice regarding the Commonwealth's TitleV Septic System Repair / Loan Program to local elected and health officials for possible implementation by the town in 1996.

Wales

Studied the need for roadway improvements and sidewalks on a local roadway at the request of a resident.

Ware

Wrote a successful \$10,000 DARE grant application for the police department.

Prepared S.107 Local Economic Development Partnership consultant RFP.

Prepared the Town's FY95 EOCD CDF application.

Provided financial management technical assistance to the community development department.

West Springfield

Performed a traffic signal warrants analysis at the intersection of Amostown Road with Dewey Street.

Researched definitions of terms for use in a Life Care Facilities bylaw. Critiqued traffic impact study for a proposed nursing home at Monastery Avenue, providing list of additional information required.

Westfield

Researched the Massachusetts laws governing speed limits in unsigned areas outside of thickly settled areas.

Assisted Engineering Department in developing specifications and contracting for aerial photography, photogrammetric services and compilation of large scale digital base/tax maps of the city.

Westhampton

Performed daily traffic counts at twelve locations.

Revised zoning by-law and assisted in the process of getting the revisions adopted.

Wilbraham

Provided data and technical assistance to traffic/engineering consultant firm overseeing development of proposed new movie theater complex.

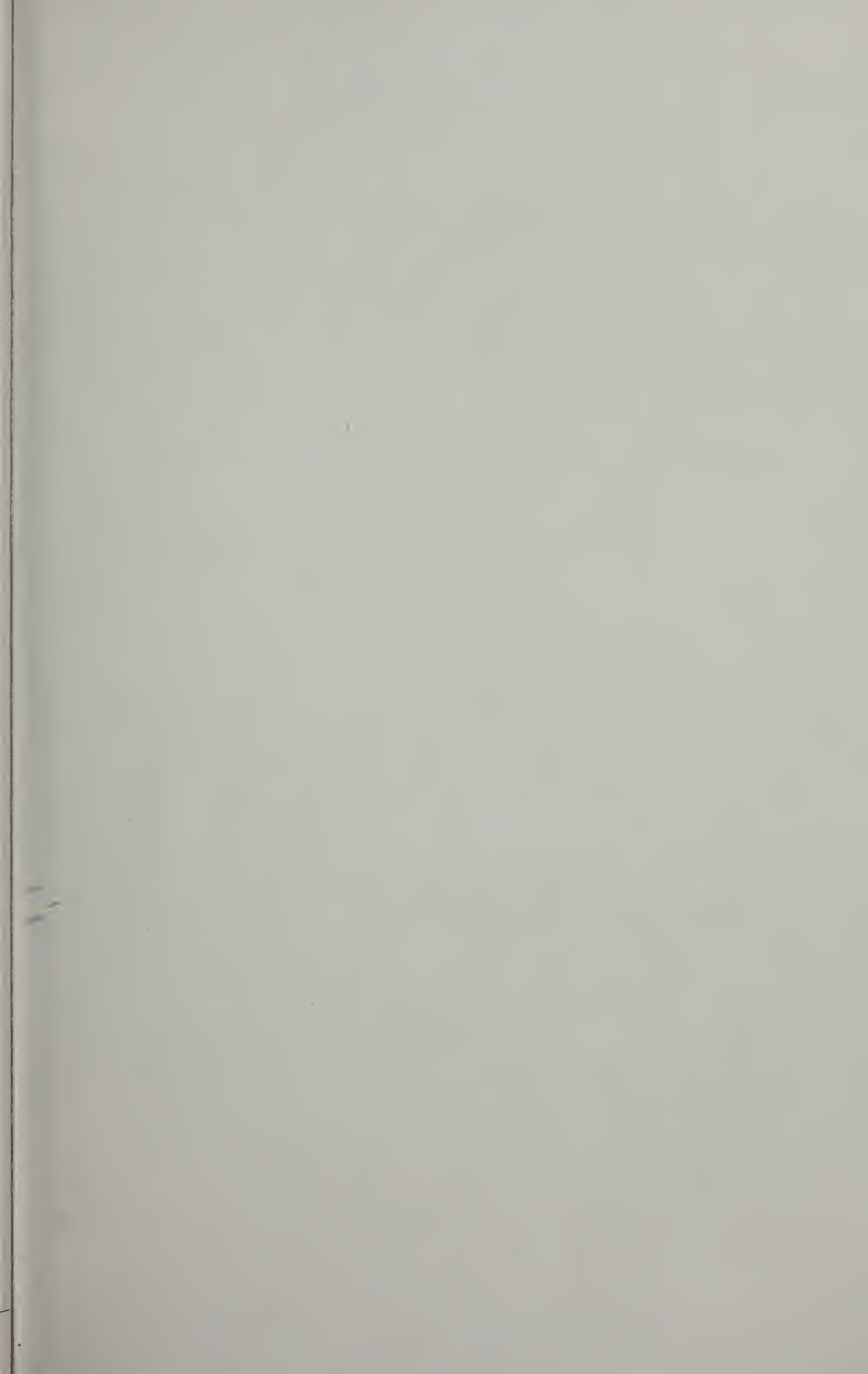
Williamsburg

Assisted with preliminary work to develop a successful EOCD Strategic Planning grant application for overhaul of the Town's Zoning bylaw.

Worthington

Provided technical review to the planning board, board of selectmen and finance committee on a proposed residential air park development.

Provided comments to the town for its review of proposed Eagle's Landing Air Park development. Comments included recommendation for securities to ensure completion of roads in the project, potential impacts to wetlands and possible mitigating measures.



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